

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce system for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the system comprising:

means for identifying a user and generating user information in response to an access from a user terminal, the user information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

means for receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

means for creating product selection information for use by a first party that carries products, the product selection information for selection of at least one product, the product selection information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request and the user information, the product selection information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user information; and

means for creating product delivery information for use by a second party that delivers products, the product delivery information for delivery of the at least one product, the product delivery information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request and the user information, the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user information.

2. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the means for creating product selection information causes the product selection information to include a product list of at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package.

3. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 2, wherein the product list of the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package is produced by the means for creating product selection information on the basis of at least one of a weight and a volume of each of the products contained in the product purchase request.

4. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 2, wherein the product list of the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package is produced by the means for creating product selection information on the basis of a packaging characteristic of each of the products contained in the product purchase request.

5. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the means for creating the product selection information causes the product selection information to include a pick-up order which defines an order in which the products are to be picked up by the second party, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the respective products in the first party.

6. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 2, further comprising:

means for transmitting information pertaining to the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package, to the user terminal.

7. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, wherein the first party that carries products is a general shop that carries a plurality of types of products.

8. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, wherein the means for creating product delivery information causes the product delivery information to include a delivery order in which the products are to be delivered.

9. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for permitting the user terminal to acquire at least one of a product selection status observed at the first party, and a delivery status observed at the second party.

10. (Original) An electronic commerce system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for providing the user terminal with product information in response to a search request from the user terminal.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce method for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a user in response to an access from a user terminal, to generate user identification information, the user identification information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

creating product selection information needed for selection of at least one product and creating product delivery information needed for delivery of the at least one product, on the basis of at least one of the user identification information and the product purchase request, the product selection information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user identification information, the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user identification information;

sending the product selection information to a terminal of a first party that carries products; and

sending the product delivery information to a terminal of a second party that delivers products.

13. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the product selection information includes a product list of at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package.

14. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 13, wherein the product list of the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package is produced on the basis of at least one of a weight and a volume of each of the products contained in the product purchase request.

15. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 13, wherein the product list of the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package is produced on the basis of a packaging characteristic of each of the products contained in the product purchase request.

16. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the product selection information includes a pick-up order which defines an order in which the products are to be picked up by the second party, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the respective products in the first party.

17. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of:

transmitting information pertaining to the at least one of the two or more products that can be packed in a single package, to the user terminal.

18. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, wherein the first party that carries products is a general shop that carries a plurality of types of products.

19. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, wherein the product delivery information includes a delivery order in which the products are to be delivered.

20. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of:

permitting the user terminal to acquire at least one of a product selection status observed at the first party, and a delivery status observed at the second party.

21. (Original) An electronic commerce method according to claim 12, further comprising the step of:

providing the user terminal with product information in response to a search request from the user terminal.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce method for effecting electronic commerce using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a purchase request for at least one product from a user terminal;

determining whether the purchase request is for more than one product;

when the user request is determined to be for more than one product, creating a product list of the requested products that can be packed in a single package, the product list including a pick-up order which defines an order in which the requested products for a single delivery are to be picked-up from a supplier of the products by a shipper of the products, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the requested products at the supplier of the products; and

transmitting the product list to a terminal of a party that carries the shipper of the products.

24. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce method according to claim 23, wherein the product list also indicates whether any of the products can be packed in a single package ~~the product list of the products that can be packed in a single package is created on~~ the basis of at least one of a weight and a volume of the respective products which are stored in advance in a product information database.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce method according to claim 23, wherein ~~information regarding the products that can be packed in a single package is transmitted as a reply to the user terminal~~ the supplier of the products and the shipper of the products are the same party.

27. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce system that effects electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the system comprising:

means for receiving a purchase request for at least one product from a user at a user terminal;

means for creating a product list when the received purchase request is for more than one product ~~and at least two of the requested products can be packed in a single package, the product list listing the at least two products that can be packed in the single package~~ a pick-up order which defines an order in which the requested products for a single delivery are to be picked-up from a supplier of the products by a shipper of the products, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the requested products at the supplier of the products; and

means for transmitting the product list to ~~a party that carries~~the shipper of the products.

28. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce system according to claim 27, wherein ~~the means for creating a product list creates the product list~~the product list also indicates whether any of the products can be packed in a single package based on a comparison of ~~by comparing~~ at least one of a total weight and a total volume of the products with an allowable weight or an allowable volume, respectively.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) An electronic commerce system according to claim 27, ~~further comprising means for transmitting information regarding the products that can be stored in the single package to the user terminal~~wherein the supplier of the products and the shipper of the products are the same party.

31. - 35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) An electronic commerce system for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the system comprising:

means for identifying a user and generating user information in response to an access from a user terminal, the user information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

means for receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

means for creating product selection information for use by a first party that carries products, the product selection information for selection of at least one product, the product selection information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request and the user information; and

means for creating product delivery information for use by a second party that delivers products, the product delivery information for delivery of the at least one product, the product delivery information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request and the user information;

wherein at least one of the product selection information and the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user information.

37. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 36, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the means for creating the product selection information causes the product selection information to include a pick-up order which defines an order in which the products are to be picked up by the second party, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the respective products in the first party.

38. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 36, wherein the first party that carries products is a general shop that carries a plurality of types of products.

39. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 36, wherein the means for creating product delivery information causes the product delivery information to include a delivery order in which the products are to be delivered.

40. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 36, further comprising:

means for permitting the user terminal to acquire at least one of a product selection status observed at the first party, and a delivery status observed at the second party.

41. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 36, further comprising:



means for providing the user terminal with product information in response to a search request from the user terminal.

42. (New) An electronic commerce method for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a user in response to an access from a user terminal, to generate user identification information, the user identification information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

creating product selection information needed for selection of at least one product and creating product delivery information needed for delivery of the at least one product, on the basis of at least one of the user identification information and the product purchase request, at least one of the product selection information and the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user identification information;

sending the product selection information to a terminal of a first party that carries products; and

sending the product delivery information to a terminal of a second party that delivers products.

43. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 42, wherein when the product purchase request comprises a request for two or more products, the product selection information includes a pick-up order which defines an order in which the products are to be picked up by the second party, the pick-up order being determined on the basis of locations of the respective products in the first party.

44. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 42, wherein the first party that carries products is a general shop that carries a plurality of types of products.

45. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 42, wherein the product delivery information includes a delivery order in which the products are to be delivered.

46. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 42, further comprising the step of:

permitting the user terminal to acquire at least one of a product selection status observed at the first party, and a delivery status observed at the second party.

47. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 42, further comprising the step of:

providing the user terminal with product information in response to a search request from the user terminal.

48. (New) An electronic commerce system for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the system comprising:

means for identifying a user and generating user information in response to an access from a user terminal, the user information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

means for receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

means for creating product selection information for use by a first party that carries products, the product selection information for selection of at least one product, the product selection information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request, the product selection information includes only information that is necessary to the first party to fill a product request; and

means for creating product delivery information for use by a second party that delivers products, the product delivery information for delivery of the at least one product, the product delivery information is created on the basis of at least one of the product purchase request, the product delivery information includes only information that is necessary to the second party to deliver a purchased product.

49. (New) An electronic commerce method for effecting electronic commercial transactions using a computer network in which computers are interconnected, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a user in response to an access from a user terminal, to generate user identification information, the user identification information including payment information that is sensitive and should only be transmitted over a communication network in an encrypted state;

receiving a product purchase request from the user terminal;

creating product selection information needed for selection of at least one product and creating product delivery information needed for delivery of the at least one product, on the basis of at least one of the user identification information and the product purchase request;

sending the product selection information to a terminal of a first party that carries products, wherein the product selection information sent to the first party includes only information that is necessary to the first party to fill a product request; and

sending the product delivery information to a terminal of a second party that delivers products, wherein the product delivery information sent to the second party includes only information that is necessary to the second party to deliver a purchased product.

50. (New) An electronic commerce system according to claim 48, wherein at least one of the product selection information and the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user information.

51. (New) An electronic commerce method according to claim 49, wherein at least one of the product selection information and the product delivery information does not include any of the payment information that is sensitive contained in the user information.